

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03
NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15
SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05 CEA-01 EA-10 FRB-03 NEA-10
OPIC-03 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 /143 W
-----102498 311748Z /43

R 311614Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5020
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

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USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EINV, OECD
SUBJECT: CHAIRMANSHIP OF OECD COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL
INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES (CIME)

1. WITH DEATH OF HELMUT ABRAMOWSKI, CHAIRMANSHIP OF
SUBJECT OECD COMMITTEE HAS BECOME VACANT. THREE POTEN-
TIAL CONTENDERS FOR CHAIRMANSHIP ARE WEDIGE VON DEWITZ
OF GERMANY, PHILIP LEVY OF SWITZERLAND AND STEN NIKLASSON
OF SWEDEN (THE PRESENT VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE).
THESE ARE THE ONLY THREE REMAINING MEMBERS OF CIME WHO
WERE "PRESENT AT THE CREATION" AND HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY
ACTIVE.

2. AMBASSADOR SALZMAN HAS RECEIVED LETTER DATED JANUARY
24 FROM GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO OECD STATING THAT GERMAN
GOVERNMENT HAS NOMINATED VON DEWITZ AS CANDIDATE TO SUC-
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CEED ABRAMOWSKI AND ASKING FOR SUPPORT. TEXT OF LETTER,
TOGETHER WITH VON DEWITZ VITAE, REPEATED PARAGRAPHS 5
AND 6 BELOW.

3. WITH REGARD TO OTHER TWO POSSIBLE CONTENDERS, GENERAL
OPINION AMONG MISSION CONTACTS IN SECRETARIAT AND OTHER
DELEGATIONS IS THAT NIKLASSON WILL NOT SEEK CIME CHAIR-

MANSHIP BECAUSE OF HIS EXISTING CHAIRMANSHIP OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP ON TNC CODE AT UN. HE IS PRESUMABLY ALSO AWARE THAT HE WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS, GIVEN HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE IDEALOGICAL "LEFT" IN CIME. SWISS HAVE AS YET NOT TAKEN AN OFFICIAL POSITION, ALTHOUGH LEVY APPARENTLY (ACCORDING TO SECRETARIAT AND MEMBER OF SWISS DELEGATION) INDICATED INTEREST IN THE CHAIRMANSHIP. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE OFFICIAL GERMAN ANNOUNCEMENT OF VON DEWITZ'S CANDIDACY, WE UNDERSTAND FROM SWISS OECD DELEGATION SOURCE THAT WHILE LEVY WOULD ACCEPT A "DRAFT," HE DOES NOT PLAN TO VIE ACTIVELY FOR CHAIRMANSHIP. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS THAT WE SUPPOSE ARE INFLUENCING SWISS GOVERNMENT AND LEVY ATTITUDE ARE: (A) GERMANS HAVE HELD CIME CHAIRMANSHIP FROM BEGINNING (STEEG AND ABRAMOWSKI) AND ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO CONTINUING THIS ROLE; (B) VON DEWITZ AND LEVY ARE THE TWO CIME MEMBERS MOST SUITED TO CHAIR FULL COMMITTEE OR ITS WORKING GROUP AND IT WOULD BE AWKWARD TO MAKE LEVY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND THEN REPLACE HIM AS WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN WITH VON DEWITZ; (C) GERMANS AND SWISS ARE PHILOSOPHICALLY COMPATIBLE IN THEIR APPROACH TO CIME WORK.

4. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: MISSION UNDERSTANDS LEVY WILL BE IN WASHINGTON IN NEAR FUTURE. WE ASSUME THAT U.S. OFFICIALS WILL CLARIFY AT THAT TIME SWISS POSILIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TION ON CHAIRMANSHIP AFTER WHICH WE WOULD APPRECIATE APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE. IN MEANTIME, MISSION INTENDS TO RESPOND TO INQUIRIES ABOUT U.S. POSITION BY INDICATING THAT VON DEWITZ IS A GOOD CANDIDATE AND THAT WE HAVE SUBMITTED GERMAN AMBASSADOR'S LETTER TO WASHINGTON, BUT HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED REACTION.

5. BEGIN SUBSTANTIVE TEXT OF LETTER OF GERMAN AMBASSADOR:

WITH THE SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. HELMUT ABRAMOWSKI, WHOSE ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN CONNECTED IN MANY WAYS WITH THE WORK OF OECD, THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES (IME) HAS BECOME VACANT. I HAVE, THEREFORE, AFTER BEING REPEATEDLY ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF A SMOOTH CONTINUATION OF THE IME-WORKS IMMEDIATELY CONTACTED MY GOVERNMENT, THE MORE SO SINCE THIS CONTINUATION IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IN VIEW OF THE 1979 REVIEW OF THE INSTRUMENT.

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I TAKE GREAT PLEASURE IN INFORMING YOU THAT MY GOVERNMENT HAS NOMINATED MR. VON DEWITZ AS CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED MR. ABRAMOWSKI AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES. MR. VON DEWITZ HAS FROM THE VERY BEGINNING OF THESE ACTIVITIES ACTED AS SPEAKER OF THE GERMAN DELEGATION. HE HAS TAKEN A VERY ACTIVE PART IN THE CREATION AND THE FORMULATION OF THE INSTRUMENT AND HAS ALWAYS TRIED TO ENSURE A BALANCED APPROACH IN IMPLEMENTING AND REALISING IT.

WILL YOU PLEASE CONSIDER THIS CANDIDATURE - ABOUT WHICH I HAVE ALSO INFORMED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TODAY - AS AN EXPRESSION OF OUR EFFORTS TO AVOID ANY DISCONTINUITY OF THE IMPORTANT WORK OF THE IME-COMMITTEE. END TEXT

6. BEGIN TEXT OF VON DEWITZ VITAE:
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BORN IN BERLIN, JULY 19, 1935. STUDIES IN LAW AND ECONOMICS AT FREE UNIVERSITY, BERLIN, 1954-1958. LEGAL PREPARATORY SERVICE IN BERLIN AND HANNOVER FROM 1959 TO 1964, INTERRUPTED BY SPECIAL LAW STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MADRID IN 1960/61 AND THE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBURG IN 1962. CIVIL SERVANT IN THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS SINCE 1965. FROM 1965 TO 1975 CHARGED WITH THE FOLLOWING TASKS: WEST AFRICAN COUNTRY DESK; QUESTIONS OF EEC-ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES (WHILE POSTED AT THE GERMAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATION TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES, BRUSSELS); EXPORT FINANCING AND EXPORT CREDIT GUARANTIES; BASIC QUESTIONS OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE; DEBT PROBLEMS OF AND PRIVATE FLOWS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SINCE 1973, HEAD OF DIVISION FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCING. GERMAN SPOKESMAN IN THE OECD COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES FROM ITS ESTABLISHMENT AND IN PRECEDING EXPERT GROUP ON THE SAME SUBJECT. END TEXT

KATZ

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